

## SENATE RESOLUTION 210

By Williams

A RESOLUTION to recognize and celebrate the town of Bulls Gap and their annual Archie Campbell Days festival.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pay tribute to those outstanding events that serve as icons of the cultural and historical heritage of this great State; and

WHEREAS, Archie Campbell Days, held each Labor Day weekend in Bulls Gap, is one such event where Tennesseans gather to celebrate not only the bountiful heritage of Bulls Gap, but also the legacy of the town's favorite son, the late Archie Campbell; and

WHEREAS, the history of Bulls Gap dates back to 1792, when John Bull received a land grant from North Carolina near an important gap in Bays Mountain; Mr. Bull operated a stage line through the vital passage, which became known as Bulls Gap; and

WHEREAS, railroads came to the area in the mid-1850s, and the town flourished as an important railroad center; and

WHEREAS, as passenger rail traffic declined, Bulls Gap reinvented itself, and several architecturally significant buildings from the town's railroad boom are experiencing new life today as museums, shops, and hotels; and

WHEREAS, perhaps Bulls Gap is best known to most as the home of the late Archie Campbell, a well-known country comedian and award-winning songwriter and performer; and

WHEREAS, Archie Campbell got his start on Knoxville radio, starring on the *Midday Merry-Go-Round*, and became a member of the *Grand Ole Opry* in 1959; ten years later, he helped create and starred in the popular television variety show *Hee Haw*; and

WHEREAS, Archie Campbell Days celebrates the man and his legacy, and the 2007 festival brought more than 5,000 people to Bulls Gaps where they enjoyed craft and food booths, a car show, musical groups spanning many musical genres, and much more; and

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee commends the good people of Bulls Gap for the many positive contributions their community has made to the cultural heritage of our State; and

WHEREAS, having won a special place in the hearts of its citizens and the many enthusiastic attendees of the annual Archie Campbell Days celebration, it is most appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor this fine community; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor the citizens of Bulls Gap for their contributions to Tennessee's rich cultural and historical heritage, commend the organizers, volunteers, and participants of the Archie Campbell Days celebration, and extend to them our best wishes for continued success, growth, and prosperity in their outstanding community, which is a true Tennessee treasure.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.